



Ohio Environmental Council

May 3, 2017

Honorable Marcia Fudge
United States House of Representatives
2344 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Fudge:

The Ohio Environmental Council (OEC) is a member organization of over 100 member groups and thousands of individual members throughout the state of Ohio. The OEC actively works to protect and restore Ohio's natural resources to strengthen the quality of life for families and communities, and improve the sustainability of Ohio's natural environment.

On behalf of the OEC and our members, we are writing to express our support for the Low Income Sewer and Water Assistance Program Act of 2017 (LISWAP). As both an advocate and guardian for the environment, and as members of the general public, we support your introduction of LISWAP and urge your fellow colleagues, members of Congress, to diligently undertake its duty to ensure passage of this timely piece of legislation.

As America deals with aging water infrastructure challenges and a wide array of drinking water issues at the federal level-- local communities are left to address threats to their water supplies, such as lead. In turn, citizens are being strapped with increasing water utility rates, fees, and other cost to pay for issues that have long since come due.

Communities big and small and of all income levels are affected by the nation's current water infrastructure challenges. Even moreso, low income communities and individuals with the limited financial resources are affected the most by increasing water and utility rates.

Representative Fudge's bill goes a long way to address an emerging issue--access to clean and safe drinking water.

OEC and its family of organizations thank you for your leadership on this important issue. OEC remains a committed supporter of creating a more sustainable, healthier, and stronger environment that will provide an improve quality of life for all!

Sincerely,



Heather Taylor-Miesle

Executive Director

Ohio Environmental Council

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